

YOR920000324US1
Amendment dated 03/08/2006

09/605,709

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Reply to Office Action mailed 03/03/2006

The following is a complete listing of all claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

Listing of claims:

- 1 1. (canceled)
- 1 2. (currently amended) ~~The~~ An automated method for setting up a natural
2 language interface in a Web site ~~recited in claim 1~~, comprising the steps of:
3 defining a hierarchy of topics into which individual documents or Web
4 pages can be classified;
5 generating a keyword index for those documents; and
6 for each topic in the hierarchy, associating a set of n-grams to a topic
7 in the topic hierarchy, which set of n-grams is distinctive to that topic and
8 wherein the n-grams maybe sparse or non-sparse n-grams
9 wherein the step of generating a keyword index comprises the step of
10 extracting sparse n-grams of keywords for each group of pages in the topic
11 hierarchy.
- 1 3. (canceled)
- 1 4. (canceled)
- 1 5. (currently amended) ~~The~~ An automated method for setting up a natural
2 language interface in a Web site ~~recited in claim 4~~, comprising the steps of:
3 automatically inducing a topic hierarchy by examining a structure of
4 the Web site;

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5 creating n-grams from pages in the Web site that are associated with a
6 topic in the topic hierarchy wherein the n-grams may be sparse in-grams or
7 non-sparse n-grams; and
8 creating rules from the n-grams, wherein each topic has associated
9 rules that are used to decide if a new input document or query references the
10 topic,
11 wherein the step of creating rules is performed automatically and
12 further comprising the optional step of manually editing the rules.

1 6. (currently amended) ~~The~~ An automated method for setting up a natural
2 language interface in a Web site ~~recited in claim 1,~~ comprising the steps of:
3 defining a hierarchy of topics into which individual documents or Web
4 pages can be classified;
5 generating a keyword index for those documents;
6 for each topic in the hierarchy, associating a set of n-grams to a topic
7 in the topic hierarchy, which set of n-grams is distinctive to that topic and
8 wherein the n-grams maybe sparse or non-sparse n-grams; and
9 ~~further comprising the step of~~ converting the set of n-grams to
10 classification rules.